SERT

School Emergency Response Team
Training for middle and high school students



If there was a fire in your school, would the students know how to react?

What if there is an explosion in the science room — in the confusion that follows, what should staff and students do?

When we hear about natural or man-made emergencies like these, it always seems to be happening to someone else. But, what if this happened in your school or community?

School Emergency Response Team (SERT) is training to help students prevent and be better prepared for such emergencies.

SERT training provides students with the basic skills to handle their own needs and then to respond to their home and schools' needs during and after an emergency situation.

SERT is a modular course that uses learner centered activities. It is ideal for a high school course, or can be offered as an extracurricular activity or a club activity (such as Student Council, Explorer Posts, Boys Club and Girls Clubs, After school programs, or special high risk population groups.)

SERT Goals and Objectives

- Increase volunteer efforts of students
- Encourage students to take leadership in community efforts of prevention
- Educate students to respond to emergency and disaster situations at their home and school
- Increase interest in health and public safety careers
- Empower youth with personal and community responsibility
- Encourage team building
- Develop leadership skills to affect change through higher education after graduation from high school





CERT
Neighborhood Watch
WisTAP
READY
Medical Reserve Corps
Fire Reserve Corps
Crime Prevention

SERT Modules of Education include:

• Emergency Preparedness – which will prepare youth to:

- assist with school preparedness
- increase home preparedness
- increase safety wherever possible
- assist with development of emergency preparedness kits
- develop and distribute educational materials
- be involved in fund raising
- learn special needs response

• SERT organization – which will prepare youth to:

- use the buddy system for emergency events
- recognize the Incident Command System to manage incidents
- develop connections with community emergency response networks
- deploy when needed to assist with events

• Fire safety – which will prepare youth to:

- increase fire safety at schools and homes
- learn about hazardous material safety
- develop fire escape plans
- extinguish small fires
- assist with evacuations as necessary
- assist with community smoke alarm programs identification and instillation

• Emergency medical operations – which will prepare youth to:

- prevent illness and injury
- offer First Aid, CPR and Automatic External Defibrillator skills
- assist with special needs children
- staff First Aid booths at school/community events
- assist with medical triage
- assist with treatment areas
- Act as Go-Fors with EMS teams
- Improve public health initiatives

• Light search and rescue – which will prepare youth to:

- conduct a scene size-up
- maintain rescuer safety
- maintain victim safety
- locate those who are injured
- assist with debris removal

• Emotional affects – which will prepare youth to:

- develop a healthy response to stress
- prevent Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- participate in debriefings
- assess others and tell a responsible adult

• SERT and terrorism – which will prepare youth to:

- be the eyes and ears of the school to prevent acts of terrorism and bullying
- assist with vulnerability assessments
- assist with shelter-in-place or evacuation efforts
- assist with moulage
- educate others through drama classes
- assist with table tops to full scale exercises

Who teaches SERT?

The instructional team responsible for SERT are experienced educators in the areas of health, law enforcement, fire service and emergency management. All instructors have been recognized as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) instructors by the Office of Justice Assistance and Wisconsin Emergency Management and have all completed a criminal history background check.

Is there a cost for the SERT modules?

No, they are supported by the Office of Justice Assistance, Homeland Security Program and Wisconsin Citizen Corps program grant funds.

How can I offer SERT in my school?

If you would like to offer SERT in your school or community, send in the application below.

How many hours are included in a SERT class?

Each module is estimated to include approximately 2 instructional hours for a total of 14 hours. If you are interested in certification of youth in First Aid, CPR and AED skills, total hours are estimated at 20.

SERT APPLICATION

We would like to offer SERT in our school(s) or community.	
SCHOOL/ORGANIZATIONAL NAME	
SCHOOL DISTRICT	
ADDRESS	
LOCATION OF WHERE SERT CLASS WOULD LIKE TO BE HELD:	
FORMAT THAT WE WOULD LIKE SERT CLASS OFFERED:	YOUR NAME (OR OTHER CONTACT PERSON)
WEEKEND EVENING AFTER SCHOOL	PHONE
WITHIN THE CLASSROOM OTHER	EMAIL

Complete application form and mail to:

Mary Jean Erschen, RN, BSN / Center for Emergency Health and Safety in Schools Wisconsin Technical College System Foundation / One Foundation Circle / Waunakee, WI 53597 Phone: (608) 592-5200 / Cell: (608) 212-5381 / Fax: (608) 849-2468 / E-mail: mjerschen@cehss.org / Website: www.cehss.org

The Center for Emergency Health and Safety for Schools (CEHSS) includes the following initiatives:

BELSS — Basic Emergency Lifesaving Skills in Schools

Emergency Preparedness for Schools Course

READY — Responding to Emergencies And Disasters with Youth

Risk Watch Safe Communities — Safety and injury prevention education

School Crisis Preparedness Train-the-Trainer Workshops

SERT — School Emergency Response Team Course



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